

**MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND RETENTION COMMITTEE**

July 10, 2014

5:00 PM

Mansfield Town Hall

MINUTES

Present: Steve Rogers (Chair), Curt Hirsch, Jennifer Holt, Girish Punj, Paul McCarthy, Rene Schein

Staff: none

Guest: Ron Liu

1. Call to Order

Steve Rogers called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes from November 14, 2013, January 16, 2014, and April 10, 2014

All three sets of minutes approved.

4. Tenant Issues

In follow up to Rene Schein request for more information on what the CAM (Common Area Maintenance) charges cover, Mr. Rogers said that he made initial contact with Howard Kaufman of LeylandAlliance to discuss concerns from several tenants (including himself) about how charges are calculated. Those conversations are continuing.

The Committee discussed whether, as Storrs Center gets built out, the Committee would serve as an arbitrator between businesses and the landlord.

5. Committee Member make up

Mona Friedland has resigned from the Committee to move over to the Partnership's Finance and Administration Committee.

Following up on discussions from a previous meeting, Mr. Rogers reported that four new members have agreed to serve on the Business Development and Retention Committee: Jennifer Holt of the Chamber of Commerce, Matt Rusconi principal in both Moe's Southwest Grill & Mooyah Burgers, Tina Lapsia a student at UConn, and Ron Liu a principal in Haru Aki Café. This brings our committee up to 10 members.

6. Feedback from businesses in Storrs Center

Staff weren't present to report. Committee members are not aware of any concerns.

7. Coordination with Town's Economic Development Commission

Mr. Rogers asked if anyone else had been contacted by John McGuire from the Town's Economic Development Commission who has been conducting business visits as part of the Commission's mission to gain feedback on business climate. No one on the Committee had been.

The Committee discussed the unintended consequences that Storrs Center is having on North Eagleville Road businesses, and that there will likely be new commerce there when the bypass road is completed, and the research park gets developed. Should the Committee get involved in this issue?

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm. The Committee will not meet in August but there may be e-mail correspondence between meetings.